In the Anchal Department, there should be still freer recruitment of Ezhavas as Anchal Masters, clerks, etc. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies was exhibiting objectionable indifference to the claims of Ezhavas and the matter required intervention by Government. The member hoped that the new Director of Registration would satisfy the legitimate claims of Ezhavas as far as his department was concerned.

The Inspector of Vernacular Schools had appointed a number of Ezhavas as teachers. The Inspector of English Schools had not, however, thought fit to give employment to the large number of Ezhava applicants, who were graduates in Arts or had passed the Oriental Titles Examinations of the University of Madras or held diplomas awarded by the local Sanskrit College.

In the Forest Department, the member did not want that Ezhavas should be entertained straightway as Rangers and Deputy Rangers, but wished that more Ezhavas should be recruited to the clerical staff.

In conclusion, the member prayed that Ezhavas and other backward communities might, for some time to come, be exempted from the operation of the rule regarding age bar, in consideration of the fact that qualified men were becoming available only latterly and that Heads of Departments were prone to use it as a weapon against the Ezhava aspirant for office.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Martandan Vaidyan, I was full of joyous anticipations when you commenced your speech with the tone of pride in the fact that your community contains men who take good position in trade and industry. Then we listened ; and you plunged into the question of appointments. I do not think you included Devaswom and *Matilakam* but you included every other kind of official and semi-official appointments in which Ezhavas have not been holding a place ; and also you specified a number of high appointments which you would like to see filled by Ezhavas. I have not the slightest doubt that in the fulness of time Ezhavas will come to occupy those high positions. It may not be in your time, it may not be in my time. But some day, I have not the slightest doubt, they will attain fulfilment of their aspirations.

There is one thing, however, in which I am very much in sympathy with you. The Ezhavas have, as a community, been closely associated with the practice of indigenous methods of medicine and I shall take the earliest opportunity to converse with the Director of Ayurveda on the possibility of extending special encouragement to Ezhavas in that particular direction.

Your speech, like many other speeches in this Assembly—I cannot but take this opportunity of mentioning it—recalls to my mind very strikingly a refrain which I heard in a song sung by a well known musician "Harmonium Sankunni Nair" of Alleppey. It was a very pretty song. It told of various countries, places, personages such as Aurangazeb, Akbar, Tippu and other people but each verse wound up with the haunting refrain "നമ്മുടെ നാട്"*. It was a very alluring refrain. The speeches here too in many cases have a refrain ; but the refrain alas ! is not "നമ്മുടെ നാട്" but "എന്റെ സമുദായം" § Next year, I should like to see you all coming with "നമ്മുടെ നാട്" instead of "എന്റെ സമുദായം".

188. Defects in the Distribution of Official Patronage.

MR. K. N. MADHAVA KARTA (*Member, Shertallai taluk, Group II*) pleaded that the appointments in the Judicial Department should not be made purely on the basis of communal representation, although he had no objection to the principle being adopted in respect of other departments. Officers selected for the Judicial Department should be scrupulously honest, broad-minded and kind to the people. The member quoted two instances, one relating to a Magistrate and another relating to a District Judge, where the decisions were prejudiced because the defendants in the cases happened to be members of the communities to which the deciding officers belonged. The complainant and the plaintiff in those cases had therefore to go to the High Court to have their grievances redressed. He then proceeded to narrate the circumstances of the case.

*Our country. §My community.

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DEWAN : How is this relevant to your subject?

The member said that he was speaking about the defects in the distribution of appointments generally and was only bringing to the notice of the Government a few specific instances. He was only representing the actual hardships entailed and said that, if the Government realised them, they would soon disappear. The Government should not give room to an officer to feel that he got his appointment not because he was duly qualified for it, but because he belonged to a particular community. If that mentality was developed, the result would be untold sufferings to the people. Only impartial and just men should be appointed as judicial officers, whatever might be the principle adopted in appointing officers in other departments. Under the rules in force, a European could be tried only by a European judge. The Government should guard against the contingency of similarly appointing separate judges for trying members of the several communities. Matters had progressed so far as to cause apprehension of such a contingency and the member said he was prepared to quote instances in support in the open Assembly or, if that was not necessary, he would go to the Dewan specially for the purpose.

DEWAN : You may come to me specially for the purpose.

Resuming, the member said that it was needless to refer to defects in the Registration Department as such reference would only be a cry in the wilderness.

As regards the Excise Department, a major part of its work was concentrated in the Shertallai taluk. The member pleaded that people from his taluk should be given encouragement in that department, no matter to whichever community they belonged.

A sum of about fifty lakhs of rupees was being spent annually in the shape of Government grants, contracts, etc. The inhabitants of Shertallai taluk should not be lost sight of in distributing that amount.

Lastly, he referred to the practice of circulating memorials for purposes of signature by the members of the Assembly and others at the current and past sessions. He said that the signatories affixed their signatures due to the influence of the persons carrying the memorials for circulation or for some other reasons.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Madhava Karta, I am very sorry, deeply grieved, that I have got to be impartial in the matter of the time-limit. If not, I could have listened on happily for a long time to your very humorous and amusing speech. But alas ! when we make rules, we must stick to them. Two things I have learnt from your speech to-day. One is that *vishayam*, meaning subject matter is something entirely different from *visham*, meaning poison. Another thing also I have learnt—you reserved it as a tit-bit for the finish up and that is, when a memorial is not a memorial. You also initiated me into the mysteries of the gentle art of signing memorials. For knowledge of these matters, I am deeply indebted to you. "The rest in person".

189. Suggestions for the improvement of the Administration.

MR. K. GOPALA PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Changanachery*) said that, considering the virtual failure of modern education, regard being had to the enormous expenditure on that account, the growth of unemployment among the educated, and the increase in the number of Colleges and High Schools side by side with the absence of industrial education, an educational survey was an indispensable and an immediate necessity. The main object of such a survey should be to remodel the existing educational scheme in view to make it more practical and also to control and bring down the expenditure on the Education Department. The Government were not taking measures to arrest the growth of expenditure on education. On the other hand, they were trying to enhance it, as evidenced by the fact that the Women's College was to be raised to the first grade. There were on the whole only 613 girl pupils in the High School classes of all the schools in the State and only a much smaller number would be successful in the School Final Examination and a still smaller number alone would go in for collegiate education. At a time when the economic condition of the people was going down, especially as a result of the change

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